Brothers and Keepers

John Edgar Wideman 2020-10-06 “A rare triumph” (The New York Times Book Review), this powerful memoir about the divergent paths taken by two brothers is a classic work from one of the greatest figures in American literature: a reflection on John Edgar Wideman’s family and his brother’s incarceration—a classic that is as relevant now as when originally published in 1984. A “brave and brilliant” (The Philadelphia Inquirer) portrait of lives arriving at different destinies, the classic John Edgar Wideman memoir, Brothers and Keepers, is a haunting portrait of two brothers—one an award-winning writer, the other a fugitive wanted for a robbery that resulted in a sentence of life in prison, and provides vivid views of the American prison system. A gripping, unsettling account, Brothers and Keepers weighs the bonds of blood, affection, and guilt that connect Wideman and his brother and measures the distance that lies between them. “If you care at all about brotherhood and dignity...this is a must-read book” (The Denver Post). With a new afterward by his brother Robert Wideman, recently released after more than fifty years in prison.

Philadelphia Fire

John Edgar Wideman 2020-10-06 One of John Wideman’s most ambitious and celebrated works, the lyrical masterpiece and PEN/Faulkner winner inspired by the 1985 police bombing of the West Philadelphia row house owned by black liberation group Move. In 1985, police bombed a West Philadelphia row house owned by the Afrocentric cult known as Move, killing eleven people and starting a fire that destroyed sixty other houses. At the heart of Philadelphia Fire is Cudjoe, a writer and exile who returns to his old neighborhood after spending a decade fleeing from his past, and who becomes obsessed with the search for a lone survivor of the event: a young boy seen running from the flames. Award-winning author John Edgar Wideman brings these events and their repercussions to shocking life in this seminal novel. “Reminiscent of Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man” (Time) and Norman Mailer’s The Executioner’s Song, Philadelphia Fire is a masterful, culturally significant work that takes on a major historical event and takes us on a brutally honest journey through the despair and horror of life in urban America.

Writing to Save a Life

John Edgar Wideman 2016-11-15 Wideman “traces the life of the father of iconic civil rights martyr Emmett Till—a man who was executed by the Army ten years before Emmett’s murder—presenting an exploration of individual and collective memory in America by one of the most formidable black intellectuals of our time”--Amazon.com.

American Histories

John Edgar Wideman 2018-03-20 “A powerful assemblage of short stories exploring late-in-life angst through personal myth, cultural memory, and riffs on an empire scorched by its own hubris” (O, The Oprah Magazine) from award-winning author John Edgar Wideman—his first collection in more than a decade. “Race and its reverberations are at the core of this slim, powerful volume, a blend of fiction, memoir, and reimagined history, in which the boundaries between those forms are murky and ever shifting” (The Boston Globe). In this singular collection, John Edgar Wideman blends the personal, historical, and political to invent complex, charged stories about love, death, struggle, and what we owe each other. With characters ranging from everyday Americans to Jean-Michel Basquiat to Nat Turner, American Histories is a journey through time, experience, and the soul of our country. In “JB & FD,” Wideman reimagines conversations between John Brown, the anti-slavery crusader, and Frederick Douglass, the abolitionist and orator—conversations that produce a fantastical, rich correspondence that spans years and ideologies. “Maps and Ledgers” eavesdrops on a brother and sister today as they ponder their father’s killing of another man. “Williamsburg Bridge” sits inside a man sitting on a bridge who contemplates his life before he decides to jump. “My Dead” is a story about how the already-departed demand more time, more space in the lives of those who survive them. American Histories is “an important addition to Wideman’s body of writing and a remarkable demonstration of his ability to address social issues through a range of fictional forms and styles” (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette). An extended meditation on family, history, and loss, American Histories weaves together historical fact, philosophical wisdom, and deeply personal vignettes. This is Wideman at his best—emotionally precise and intellectually stimulating—an extraordinary collection by a master.

God’s Gym

John Edgar Wideman 2006-08-10 In God’s Gym, the celebrated author John Edgar Wideman offers stories that pulse with emotional electricity. The ten pieces here explore strength, both physical and spiritual. The collection opens with a man paying tribute to the quiet fortitude of his mother, a woman who “should wear a T-shirt: God’s Gym.” In the stories that follow, Wideman delivers powerful riffs on family and fate, basketball and belief. His mesmerizing prose features guest appearances by cultural luminaries as diverse as the Harlem Globetrotters, Franz Fanon, Thelonious Monk, and Marilyn Monroe. As always, Wideman astounds with writing that moves from the intimate to the political, from shock to transcendence.

Sent for You Yesterday

John Edgar Wideman 1997 Lucy and Carl struggle to prevent the extinction of the Black community of Homewood and to keep alive the musical heritage of the blues piano player, Albert Wilkes.

Hoop Roots

John Edgar Wideman 2002-11 The author recalls his experiences playing basketball with whites and African Americans in the Homewood section of Pittsburgh, describing how African Americans slowly but surely changed the nature of the sport.
Fanon introduces the French film director Jean-Luc Godard to the story. He describes Godard as \textit{breathtaking} and \textit{touching}. Fanon's work is a \textit{philosophical and emotional memoir}, where he \textit{reflects on the pain, suffering, and beauty of the human condition}. He draws upon personal experiences, cultural narratives, and political events to create a \textit{rich tapestry of ideas and emotions}. This approach is \textit{multidimensional}, weaving together personal anecdotes, historical events, and philosophical musings. 

\textbf{American Histories} John Edgar Wideman 1998-03-26 \textit{A powerful assemblage of short stories exploring late-in-life angst through personal myth, cultural memory, and reflections on an enigmatic self.} (O, The Oprah Magazine) from award-winning author John Edgar Wideman—his first collection in more than a decade. “Race and its reverberations are at the core of this slim, powerful volume, a blend of fiction, memoir, and reimagined history, in which the boundaries between these forms are murky and ever shifting” (The Boston Globe). This singular collection, John Edgar Wideman blends the personal, historical, and political to invent complex, charged stories about love, death, struggle, and what we owe each other. With characters ranging from everyday Americans to Jean-Michel Basquiat to Nat Turner, American Histories is a journey through time, experience, and the soul of our country. In “JB & FD,” Wideman reimagines conversations between John Brown, the anti-slavery crusader, and Frederick Douglass, the abolitionist and orator—conversations that produce a fantastical, rich correspondence that spans years and ideologies. “Maps and Ledgers” eavesdrops on a brother and sister today as they ponder their father’s killing of another man. “Williamsburg Bridge” sits inside a man sitting on a bridge who contemplates his life before he decides to jump. “My Dead” is a story about how the already-departed demand more time, more space in the lives of those who survive them. American Histories is “an important addition to Wideman’s body of writing and a remarkable demonstration of his ability to address social issues through a range of fictional forms and styles” (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette). An extended meditation on family, history, and loss, American Histories weaves together historical fact, philosophical wisdom, and deeply personal vignettes. This is Wideman at his best—emotionally precise and intellectually stimulating—an extraordinary collection by a master.

\textbf{Damballah} John Edgar Wideman 1998 Traces the experiences of a Black family from just after the Civil War to the radical sixties

\textbf{The Stories of John Edgar Wideman} John Edgar Wideman 1992 Stories feature individuals from all walks of life who reside in Homewood, a Black section of Pittsburgh

\textbf{Returning to Reims} Didier Eribon 2018-06-07 “A deeply intelligent and searching book, one that makes you re-consider the narrative of your own life and reframe the story you tell yourself” Hilary Mantel “There was a question that had to come to trouble me a bit earlier, once I had taken the first steps on this return journey to Reims... Why, when I have had such an intense experience of forms of shame related to class... why had it never occurred to me to take up this problem in a book?” Returning to Reims is a breath-taking memoir of return, a family story of class, sexuality, gender and of the shifting political allegiances of the French working classes—a phenomenon in France and a huge bestseller in Germany, Didier Eribon has written the defining memoir of our times.

\textbf{Fatheralong} John Edgar Wideman 1996

\textbf{The Homewood Trilogy} John Edgar Wideman 1985 The winner of the 1984 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction presents three portraits of life in Homewood, an American ghetto, recounting the pains, passions, dreams, and memories of the generations of the American family

\textbf{Fanon} John Edgar Wideman 2010-04-16 A philosopher, psychiatrist, and political activist, Frantz Fanon was a fierce, acute critic of racism and oppression. Born of African descent in Martinique in 1925, Fanon fought in defense of France during World War II but later against France in Algeria’s war for independence. His last book, \textit{The Wretched of the Earth}, published in 1961, inspired leaders of diverse liberation movements: Steve Biko in South Africa, Che Guevara in Latin America, the Black Panthers in the States. Wideman’s novel is disguised as the project of a contemporary African American novelist, Thomas, who undertakes writing a life of Fanon. The result is an electrifying mix of perspectives, traveling from Manhattan to Paris to Algeria to Pittsburgh. Part whodunit, part screenplay, part love story, Fanon introduces the French film director Jean-Luc Godard to the ailing Mrs. Wideman in Homewood and chases the meaning of Fanon’s legacy through our violent, post-9/11 world, which seems determined to perpetuate the evils Fanon sought to rectify.

\textbf{The Cattle Killing} John Edgar Wideman 1996 In plaque-ridden eighteenth-century Philadelphia, a young itinerant Black preacher struggles to save a mysterious, endangered African woman from a racially explosive society

\textbf{Hiding Place} John Edgar Wideman 1998 When a man is murdered and he is unfairly accused, Tommy hides out with Mother Bess—a relative who is mean and mentally unbalanced—and together they swallow in trepidation and anger desperately trying to find the nerve to face the world. Reprint.

\textbf{A Glance Away} John Edgar Wideman 2010-03-04 Eddie Lawson returns to Pittsburgh, where his crippled mother’s poisonous anger drives him to the streets. With his friend, Brother, Eddie is forced to confront his fears of Burn’s Forest and the class alienation which controls his life.

\textbf{Understanding John Edgar Wideman} Quentin Miller 2018-01-15 Among the many gifted African American authors who emerged in the 1970s and 80s, John Edgar Wideman is one of the most challenging and innovative. His analytical mind can turn almost any topic into an intellectual adventure, whether it is playground basketball, the blues, the prison experience, father-son relationships, or the stories he lived or heard growing up in the impoverished section of Pittsburgh known as Homewood. In Understanding John Edgar Wideman, D. Quentin Miller offers a comprehensive overview of Wideman’s writings, which range from the critically acclaimed books of the Homewood Trilogy to lesser known writings such as the early novels A Glance Away and The Lynchers. Notably Miller includes the first scholarly analysis of Writing to Save a Life, Wideman’s recently published meditation on the military trial and execution of the father of civil rights martyr Emmett Till. In his fiction, nonfiction, and works that artfully combine both forms, Wideman has employed a multilayered and often difficult writing style in order to explore a wide range of topics. Miller tackles such topics as African American folk history, the intersection of personal and public history, the confluence of oral and written traditions, and the quest for meaning in nihilistic urban settings where black families struggle against crime, poverty, and despair. Miller also shows how Wideman’s singular personal history is interwoven into his writings. His impressive accomplishments, including an Ivy League education and numerous literary honors, have come alongside family tragedies. By the time his sixth novel was published, both his brother and son were serving life sentences for murder, a source of anguish that he wrestled with in Brothers and Keepers and Fatheralong. Wideman writes with such authority on so many subjects that readers frequently have no idea what to expect with a new publication. Understanding John Edgar Wideman is thus a necessary guide to a prolific, varied, and essential oeuvre.

\textbf{All Stories are True} John Edgar Wideman 1993 Stories feature individuals from all walks of life who reside in Homewood, a Black section of Pittsburgh

\textbf{The Lynchers} John Edgar Wideman 2010-02-26 Almost 30 years before 9/11, John Edgar Wideman published his third novel, a revolutionary and controversial story about four African-American men who hatch a terrorist plot to shake a complacent America to its foundations. They see their plan to lynch a white cop as the ultimate symbolic act of protest in a racist, hypocritical society mired in fundamental inequalities that contradict its “Home of the Free” credo. Critic Saunders Redding raved, “It is all here...the history of Negro America raised to the grandeur of superb fiction, as Tolstoy did it for the history of the Russian people in the Napoleonic era in War and Peace. I think The Lynchers is far and away the truest, the most moving, and the most brilliantly crafted novel of Negro life in almost a quarter of a century—that is, since Ellison’s Invisible Man, in which some ways it surpasses.”

\textbf{Conversations with John Edgar Wideman} John Edgar Wideman 1998 This book spans thirty-five years. Wideman discusses a wide variety of topics – from post-modernism to genocide, from fatherhood to women’s basketball. One of the pleasures of encountering these conversations is the glimpse they give into the workshop of the writer’s mind. He is shown in the interviews to be very open about his artistic aims, techniques, and sources—whether talking about his Aunt May’s storytelling or about African spirituality.

\textbf{The Hiding Place} Trezza Azzopardi 2002 Dolores Gauci, the youngest
John Edgar Wideman 1992 “Homewood was to be a place in his fiction but also more than that, a metaphor for the African American experience”.

You Made Me Love You-John Edgar Wideman 2021-04-06 A powerful selection of the best of John Edgar Wideman’s short stories over his fifty-year career, representing the wide range of his intellectual and artistic pursuits. When John Edgar Wideman won the PEN Malamud Award in 2019, he joined a list of esteemed writers—from Eudora Welty to George Saunders—all of whom are acknowledged masters of the short story. Wideman’s commitment to short fiction has been lifelong, and here he gathers a representative selection from throughout his career, stories that challenge what defines, separates, and unites us: dare to push form and defy convention; and, to quote Wideman, seek to “deconstruct the given formulas of African American culture and life.” Wideman’s stories are grounded in the streets and the people of Homewood, the Pittsburgh neighborhood of his childhood, but they range far beyond there, to the small western towns of Wyoming and historic Philadelphia, the contemporary world and the ancient past. He explores the interior lives of his characters, and the external pressures that shape them. These stories are as intellectually intricate as they are rich with the language and character. “John Edgar Wideman’s short stories render an internal and external world as vivid and intricate as Faulkner’s, as emotionally painful as Baldwin’s, and as unique as his own streets and stoops of Homewood,” wrote the PEN/Malamud Award selection committee. Comprised of thirty-five stories drawn from past collections (American Histories, Briefs, God’s Gym, All Stories Are True, Fever, and Damballah), and an introductory essay by the National Book Critics Circle board member and scholar Walton Muymba, this volume of Wideman’s selected stories celebrates the lifelong significance of this major American writer’s essential contribution to a form—illuminating the ways that he has made it his own.

Blackness and Modernism-James William Coleman 1989 The study of a literary master emerging from “modernism” into the rich heritage of black tradition, black aesthetics, & black culture.

Briefs-John Edgar Wideman 2010 BRIEFS is a groundbreaking new collection of “microstories” from celebrated author John Edgar Wideman, previous winner of both the Rea and O. Henry awards saluting mastery of the short story form. Here he has assembled a masterful collage that explodes our assumptions about the genre. Wideman unveils an utterly original voice and structure-hip-hop zen-where each story is a single breath, to be caught, held, shared and savored. A relief worker’s Sudan bulletin, a jogger’s bullet-dodging daydreams, your neighbor’s fears and fantasies, an absent mother’s regrets—Wideman’s storytellers are eavesdroppers and jogger’s bullet-dodging daydreams, your neighbor’s fears and fantasies, an absent mother’s regrets—Wideman’s storytellers are eavesdroppers and

Fever-John Edgar Wideman 1990 A collection of short stories follows a young woman jogger into an erotic fantasy, recounts an English professor’s daydreams, your neighbor’s fears and fantasies, an absent mother’s regrets—Wideman’s storytellers are eavesdroppers and

Reuben-John Edgar Wideman 1988 An aging, highly intelligent black lawyer who lives in a cluttered trailer is the go-between for the poor blacks of Homewood who must deal with the authorities downtown

The Magician’s Book-Laura Miller 2008-12-03 Enchanted by Narnia’s fantastic world as a child, prominent critic Laura Miller returns to the series as an adult to uncover the source of these small books’ mysterious power by looking at their creator, Clive Staples Lewis. What she discovers is not the familiar, idealized image of the author, but a more interesting and ambiguous truth: Lewis’s tragic and troubled childhood, his unconventional love life, and his intense but ultimately doomed friendship with J.R.R. Tolkien. Finally reclaiming Narnia “for the rest of us,” Miller casts the Chronicles as a profoundly literary creation, and the portal to a lifelong adventure in books, art, and the imagination.

The Routledge Introduction to African American Literature-D. Quentin Miller 2016-02-12 The Routledge Introduction to African American Literature considers the key literary, political, historical and intellectual contexts of African American literature from its origins to the present, and also provides students with an analysis of the most up-to-date literary trends and debates in African American literature. This accessible and engaging guide covers a variety of essential topics such as: Vernacular, Oral, and Blues Traditions in Literature Slave Narratives and Their Influence The Harlem Renaissance Mid-twentieth century black American Literature Literature of the civil rights and Black Power era Contemporary African American Writing Key thematic and theoretical debates within the field Examining the relationship between the literature and its historical and sociopolitical contexts. D. Quentin Miller covers key authors and works as well as less canonical writers and themes, including literature and music, female authors, intersectionality and transnational black writing.

Brothers and Keepers-John Edgar Wideman 1984 The author examines his brother’s life in comparison to his own and asks himself why they are so different, once a college professor, one sentenced to life imprisonment. A haunting portrait of lives arriving at different destinies, this is the author’s seminal memoir about two brothers, one an award-winning novelist, the other a fugitive wanted for robbery and murder. He recalls the capture of his younger brother Bobby, details the subsequent trials that resulted in a sentence of life in prison, and provides vivid views of the American prison system. A gripping, unsettling account, it weighs the bonds of blood, tenderness, and guilt that connect the author to his brother and measures the distance that lies between them.

Writing to Save a Life-John Edgar Wideman 2017-10-03 Wideman “traces the life of the father of iconic civil rights martyr Emmett Till—a man who was executed by the Army ten years before Emmett’s murder—presenting an exploration of individual and collective memory in America by one of the most formidable black intellectuals of our time”--Amazon.com.

Hurry Home-John Edgar Wideman 2010-02-19 In 1970, The New York Times wrote, “Hurry Home is a dazzling display...we have nothing but admiration for Mr. Wideman’s talent.” Wideman’s second novel is the powerful and remarkably prescient story of a highly educated, multicrimal man’s struggle to find himself and understand his place in a country walled off by sharp racial and class divisions which seem to preemp the very possibility of his existence. Cecil Braithwaite works as a janitor while earning a law degree, yet discovers faithful adherence to the script promising the American Dream is not enough. He travels abroad, looking to Europe and Africa, but can’t escape the abiding sense of rootlessness, of being trapped in a halfway house of questions the world’s not yet ready or willing to answer. Wideman starkly portrays how difficult it is to shake free of the shackles one is born to, claim an identity that transgresses society’s most fundamental boundaries, and find one’s true Home.

The Terrible Twos-Ishmael Reed 1999 The Terrible Twos is a wickedly funny, sharp-edged fictional assault on all those sulky, spoiled naysayers needing instant gratification – Americans. Ishmael Reed’s sixth novel depicts a zany, bizarre, and all-too believable future where mankind’s fate depends upon St. Nicholas and a Risto rasta dwarf named Black Peter, who together wreak mischiefous havoc on Wall Street and in the Oval Office. This offbeat, on-target social critique makes marvelous fun of everything that is American, from commercialism to Congress, Santa Claus to religions cults.

Sent for You Yesterday-John Edgar Wideman 1997 Lucy and Carl struggle to prevent the extinction of the Black community of Homewood and to keep alive the musical heritage of the blues piano player, Albert Wilkes

Forensic Science and Law-Cyril H. Wecht 2005-12-22 Forensic science has undergone dramatic progress in recent years, including in the areas of DNA collection and analysis and the reconstruction of crime scenes. However, too few professionals are equipped with the knowledge necessary to fully apply the potential of science in civil, criminal, and family legal matters. Featuring contributions from renowned experts in the forensic, scientific, and legal professions, Forensic Science and Law: Investigative Applications in Criminal, Civil, and Family Justice communicates the wide range of methods and approaches used for achieving justice in these circumstances. A solid grounding in the underlying principles of our legal system provides a context for understanding how these methods are
The book brings together the words and thoughts of diverse professionals whose common goal is to uncover the truth. About the editors... Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D., is actively involved as a medical-legal and forensic science consultant, author, and lecturer. Currently coroner of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, he is certified by the American Board of Pathology in anatomic, clinical, and forensic pathology and is a Fellow of the College of American Pathologists and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. Dr. Wecht is a Clinical Professor at the University of Pittsburgh Schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, and Graduate School of Public Health, an Adjunct Professor at Duquesne University Schools of Law, Pharmacy and Health Services, and a Distinguished Professor at Carlow University. He is a past president of both the American College of Legal Medicine and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Dr. Wecht is the author of more than 500 professional publications and has appeared as a guest on numerous national television and radio talk shows. John T. Rago, J.D., is Assistant Professor of Law at Duquesne University School of Law and the Director of both The Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law and the Law School’s Post-conviction DNA Project. He teaches criminal law and procedure to law students and graduate courses on wrongful convictions, foundations in American law and constitutional criminal procedure to students in the university’s Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. Professor Rago also serves as an appointed member to the Innocence Project’s Policy Group of the Cardozo School of Law in New York. He is admitted to practice before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.